

REMARKS

Applicant responds to each rejection or objection, in the order in which they are addressed in the Office Action, as follows:

1. Claim 8 was objected to under 35 U.S.C. § 112.

The office action objected to Claim 8 as being misdescriptive. It has been amended herein to reflect the Examiner's observation that "first and second refractive indices" should properly read "second and third refractive indices. It is therefore respectfully submitted that the objection has been obviated.

2. Claims 1-4, 6-8, 13-15 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

The office action rejected claims 1-4, 6-8, 13-15, and 19 as being anticipated by the Sakakibara '262 reference. The office action indicated that Claims 5, 9-12, and 16-18 were directed to patentable subject matter.

Claim 1 has been amended herein to include the limitations of Claim 5. It is therefore submitted that it is directed to patentable subject matter. Claims 2 and 3 depend from Claim 1, and therefore include each of its limitations. Therefore they, too,

are directed to patentable subject matter. Claim 5 has been cancelled herein as being redundant with amended Claim 1.

Claim 6 has been amended to specifically require that “the second pockets is shaped to *totally internally* reflect a beam of light from the first pocket passing through the optical transit point and incident upon the second pocket to the optical exit point.” It is respectfully submitted that nowhere does the Sakakibara ‘262 reference teach or suggest this limitation.

Claims 13-15 have been cancelled herein.

Claim 19 has been amended to specifically require a second enclosed pocket, and also that “light shining through the transparent member is *totally internally* reflected by the first and second enclosed pockets.” It is respectfully submitted that nowhere does the Sakakibara ‘262 reference teach or suggest the later limitation.

For the forgoing reasons, Applicant submits that the rejections have been obviated.

3. Claims 5, 9-12, and 16-18 were objected to.

Claims 5, 9-12, and 16-18 were objected to as depending from rejected claims, but otherwise indicated to be directed to allowable subject matter. Claim 5 has been cancelled herein (and it’s limitations added to Claim 1). Claims 9 and 16 have been rewritten in the form of independent claims incorporating each of the limitations of the Claims from which they formerly depended. It is therefore respectfully submitted that

they are in a condition for allowance. Claims 10-12 each depend from Claim 9, and therefore are also now in a condition for allowance. Likewise Claims 17 and 18 each depend from Claim 16, and are also now in a condition for allowance.

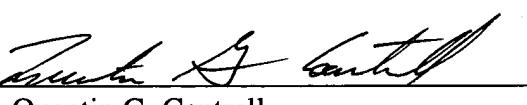
CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that all claims are in a condition for allowance, and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

The undersigned welcomes a telephonic interview with the Examiner, if the Examiner believes that such an interview would facilitate review of this Amendment Response.

A check in the amount of \$930.00 is enclosed to cover the three-month extension of time. No other fees are believed necessary. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees due, including statutory fees for extensions of time, to Deposit Account No: 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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